Klamath Network Technical Committee
I&M Advisory and Research Planning Meeting

September 7-8, 2005
Southern Oregon University
Ashland, Oregon

Meeting Minutes

In Attendance:

Louise Johnson	LAVO	Jennifer Gibson	WHIS
Mac Brock	CRLA	David Larson	LABE
Bob Truit	KLMN	John Roth	ORCA
Dennis Odion	KLMN	Howard Sakai	REDW
Daniel Sarr	KLMN		

Meeting Goals

1. Review Klamath I&M Work plan, Staffing Structure, Vital Signs Allocations
2. Review research proposals for Servicewide Comprehensive Call

September 7th

Meeting Items

1. Review 2005 Vital Signs Process & Recent Findings

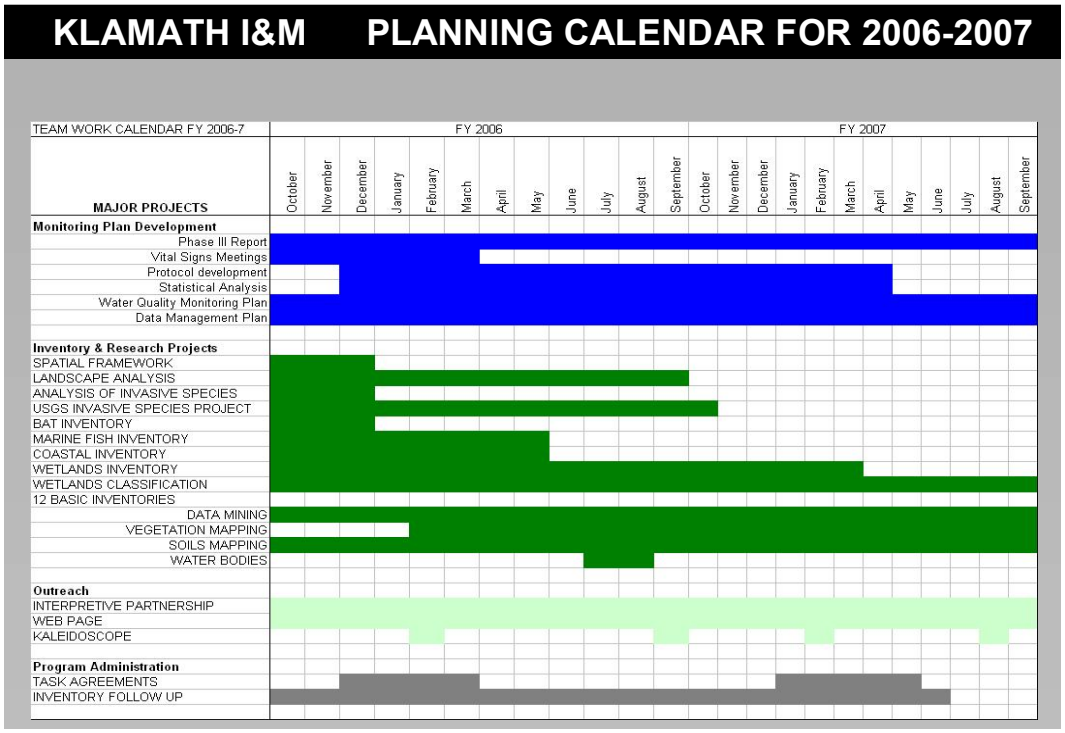
Daniel Sarr presentation with discussion. New conceptual modeling undertaken for phase II was presented. The top ten vital signs were then reviewed with individuals that were selected to be leaders in developing protocols as shown below:

VITAL SIGNS LEADS

Vital Sign	Vital Sign Score	Rank	Follow up Lead(s)
non-native species	3.52	1	Leonel A. / Gibson
keystone plants & animals/amphibians	3.39	2	Michael M. / Jen G.. / Jon A. / H.Sakai
vegetation (Redwoods, Ponderosa, Old Growth, etc...)	3.39	3	Sarr/Odion / Leonel / Jon A./ Michael M.
bird communities	3.38	4	Howard S./Mike M.
Intertidal communities	3.33	5	Dave Anderson
WQ/and marine/and subterranean	3.3	6	Bob HT/ Mark B.
land cover, use, pattern (roads)	3.28	7	Dave Hays / Odion
aquatic communities/biota	3.27	8	Mark B. / Scott Girdner / Bob HT
Collapse / Entrance Communities	3.1	9	Roth/Larson
Cave environmental conditions	2.5	10	Roth/Larsen

Some discussion took place regarding the development of the protocols for the top ten vital signs. Various vital signs could be combined and discussed in meetings. For example, non-native species and keystones could be combined and water quality and aquatic communities could be combined. The option of one longer meeting to work on protocols for all ten vital signs was also brought up. No final decision on how the meetings should be organized was made. There was considerable discussion on the topic of how to maximize efficiency in monitoring of overlapping vital signs.

This portion of the meeting ended with a discussion of the status of various KLMN I&M projects and endeavors and their timelines, as shown in the following:



Howard Sakai mentioned that the marine fish inventory is still ongoing and has been slowed by difficulties related to the vessel being used.

The group was briefed on the exotic species monitoring project being done by Tom Edwards, Matt Brooks and their staff (Rob Clinger). The problem of species being selected after the modeling was underway was mentioned.

1:30 – 2:30 Presentation and discussion of KLMN Staffing & Infrastructure Plan 2005-2007.

2. Review of Staffing and Organizational Plan

Daniel Sarr presentation and discussion of KLMN Staffing & Infrastructure Plan 2005-2007.

a. Examples of staffing options based on what the first 12 networks have done were provided based on a presentation by Shawn Carter at a network coordinators meeting. Two basic strategies were described, 1) Set up the monitoring program using agreements with outside entities (e.g. USGS) to do the monitoring; 2) Hire appropriate staff and do the monitoring in house. A slide was shown illustrating how different networks have allocated budgets depending on staffing approach, etc. There has been much variation among networks.

Examples of tradeoffs in the two approaches were presented:

–Most networks intend to do the majority of monitoring in-house.
–The never-ending trade-off will be between personnel costs and money for agreements.
–Increased personnel reduces $$ free for agreements but increases institutional memory and continuity.

Additional important considerations are:

•Implementation costs are *hard* to calculate
•Staff limitations are often *time-related*, not *capacity-related*
–the "skinny part of the pipe" is generally with analysis and reporting, not data collection.

The experience of other networks indicates that flexibility is important. Some examples:

•Several networks plan to make judicious use of seasonal, STF, and term positions (relatively lower risk)
•Split staffing is more common
–Can be among parks or networks
–Doesn't necessarily require $$, can be time, space, or logistical support

National Park Service
STAFFING FOR THE KLAMATH NETWORK

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		FY 2006		FY2007		FY2008	
Program	**Program Element**	**Cost**	Percent	**Cost**	Percent	**Cost**	Percent
Core Staff							
	Network Coordinator	85	9.8	85	9.8	85	9.8
	Data Manager	75	8.6	75	8.6	75	8.6
	Data Management Assistant	55	6.3	55	6.3	55	6.3
	Aquatic Ecologist	75	8.6	75	8.6	75	8.6
Temp Staff							
	Quantitative Ecologist	30	3.4	30	3.4		
	Data Mining	120	13.8	120	13.8		
Administration, Infrastructure, and Outreach							
	Admin-REDW	25	2.9	25	2.9	25	2.9
	Infrastructure	30	3.4	30	3.4	30	3.4
	Outreach	30	3.4	30	3.4	30	3.4
	Travel	30	3.4	30	3.4	30	3.4
Vital Signs		315	36.2	315	36.2	465	53.4
SOU Technical Writing		85					
SOU GIS Support		65					
Protocol & Database Development		165		200			
Field Monitoring				115		465	
Totals		870		870		870	